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## Bush Wants to Have His Cake and Eat the Surplus Too

*Bush in Denial on the Result of His Tax Cut for the Wealthy*

The President's own budget numbers released today confirm what Democrats have been saying all year – the Bush tax cut wipes out the Medicare surplus and even dips into the Social Security surplus. Yesterday, in a cynical attempt to spin his way out of this impending announcement, the President refused to accept the fact that his huge tax cut – aimed primarily at the wealthy – is busting the budget wide open.

The President claimed that we could do it all – provide huge tax cuts while making the crucial investments in education, Social Security, Medicare, etc. – but now that the new estimates prove we can't, the President is refusing to take any responsibility for the mess his huge tax cut has caused.

Where has the money for crucial initiatives such as investment in education and protecting Social Security and Medicare gone? **These trillions of dollars will be funneled straight into the bank accounts belonging primarily to the wealthiest Americans.**

Yesterday, President Bush called for “changing the tone” in Washington, but then insisted on a “my way or the highway” approach. This certainly was not the beginning of a bipartisan outreach effort. Today's Washington Post explains these conflicting statements by the President:

**“If [President Bush's statement about] ‘changing the tone’ means one side has to roll over and accept the other's arguments, we don't hold out much hope for bipartisanship.”**

The President should lead rather than engaging in finger pointing. The budget figures are now out in the open and the Republicans must now face reality. **The President should encourage the Republican Leaders in Congress to work with Democrats in an effort to clean up the mess the GOP's massive tax cut has caused, so that we can make investments for all Americans – not just the wealthiest 1%.**

outrage of the week